
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 400

AN ACT CONCERNING CONNECTICUT'S MANUFACTURING AND TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR), in consultation with the Office of Higher Education, to develop an advanced certificate program for adults pursuing a manufacturing or technology-related career by July 1, 2015. The bill defines an "advanced manufacturing and technology certificates program" as one that requires high school graduates to devote:

1. two days per week to taking courses at a regional community-technical college towards a manufacturing or technology-related certificate and
2. three days per week to learning that industry's trade in a related occupational field as an (a) employee or (b) apprentice employed under a written agreement to learn a trade.

Students must complete the certificate program within five consecutive semesters.

The bill also requires BOR to annually report, by January 1, 2016, to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee on:

1. the number of students enrolled in the advanced certificates program,
2. each employer teaching students in a trade related to the certificates,
3. each employer's occupational field, and
4. the number of students who found employment in their

certificate subject area upon completing the program.

(Employment data may not be available for the 2016, and possibly the 2017, annual report because students may take up to five consecutive semesters to earn a certificate.)

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 1 (03/13/2014)